

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application after this amendment. Claims 1, 5-7, 11, and 14 are independent. In light of the amendments are remarks included herein, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections.

In the outstanding Official Action, the Examiner rejected claims 7-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by IBM Systems Journal, Vo. 37, No. 4, 1998, "WebEntree: A Web Service Aggregator" (hereinafter "WebEntree"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for allowing claims 1-6.

By this amendment, Applicants have amended the claims to more appropriately recite the present invention. It is respectfully submitted that these amendments are being made without conceding the propriety of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to timely advance prosecution of the present application.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §102

The invention of claim 7, as amended, recites, *inter alia*, an information service offering system for realizing a service to offer information to a third party by means of a network, the information service offering system comprising at least one planned page opening server which enables each of a plurality of contents providers planning information offering services to exhibit, on the network, including offering fee-based digital data, and enables each of the plurality of contents providers to individually open a home page for accepting purchase order

information from users; and a service execution device which executes a service by operating associably with home pages opened by the plurality of contents providers to perform centralized management of orders accepted through the home pages, by converting the purchase order information into a predetermined form in accordance with the order, wherein the service execution device facilitates the processing of the order.

In contrast, the disclosure of WebEntree is directed to a system that provides common entrance for a user to access all web service systems that consolidates user web services in one place. A data manager maintains a repository for user, service component, user access group, and component bundling information. It also manages a set of persistent objects to accommodate repository accesses from different threads and processes. This data manager and relevant persistent objects are implemented on top of JDBS, allowing access to different database products.

However, there is no teaching or suggestion in WebEntree that is directed to at least one planned page opening server which enables each of a plurality of contents providers planning information offering services to exhibit, on the network, including offering fee-based digital data, and enables each of the plurality of contents providers to individually open a home page for accepting purchase order information from users. Further, there is no teaching or suggestion in WebEntree that is directed to a service execution device which executes a service by operating associably with home pages opened by the plurality of contents providers to perform centralized management of orders accepted through the home pages, by converting the purchase order information into a predetermined form in accordance with the order, wherein the service execution device facilitates the processing of the order.

As WebEntree fails to teach or suggest all of the elements of claim 7, as amended, Applicants maintain that claim 7 is not anticipated by WebEntree.

Applicants maintain that claims 8-10 are allowable for the reasons noted above with regard to claim 7 at least based upon their dependency on claim 7. Applicants further maintain that claim 11 includes elements similar to those discussed above with regard to claim 7 and thus claim 11, together with claims dependent thereon are not anticipated by WebEntree for the reasons set forth above with regard to claim 7.

By this amendment, Applicants have added new claim 14-18. Applicants maintain that WebEntree does not anticipate these claims and proper consideration of these new claims are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Catherine M. Voisinet (Reg. No. 52,327) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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By

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